

I/WE CLAIM:

1. A non-statistical method for training individuals to have more effective relationships, the method comprising the steps of:
 - 5 providing at least two allegories, the allegories designed to make a point about interpersonal relationships;
 - asking a series of questions to an associated audience;
 - receiving answers to the series of questions;
 - choosing a first allegory based upon the answers to the series of questions;
 - 10 relating the first allegory to the associated audience, continuing to ask questions during the relating of the first allegory;
 - allowing comments and questions from the audience during relating of the first allegory;
 - choosing at least a second allegory based upon the answers to the series of questions
 - 15 and the comments from the audience during the relating of the first allegory;
 - allowing comments and questions from the audience during the relating of the at least a second allegory;
 - interrelating the allegories based upon the answers, the questions, and the comments;
 - and,
 - 20 utilizing the allegories and their interrelation to progress from one idea to a final conclusion.
2. A non-statistical, empirical method for training employees to develop better interpersonal skills, the method comprising the steps of:
 - 25 providing a collection of allegories, each of the allegories having a message relating to interpersonal relationships;
 - providing a set of assumptions;
 - asking a series of questions of an associated audience, the questions designed to
 - 30 determine the starting point of the method;
 - receiving answers to the series of questions;

relating assumptions to the associated audience, the amount of time spent discussing the assumptions dependent upon the answers to the series of questions;

choosing a first allegory from the collection of allegories based upon the answers to the series of questions and the set of assumptions;

5 relating the first allegory to the associated audience;

allowing questions from the associated audience during the relating of the first allegory;

determining the amount of time spent relating the allegory by the questions and comments from the associated audience during the relating of the first allegory;

10 choosing a second allegory based upon the answers to the series of questions, the comments from the audience during the relating of the first allegory, and the interrelation of the two allegories;

allowing comments and questions from the audience during the relating of the second allegory;

15 interrelating the allegories based upon the answers and the comments;

choosing at least a third allegory based upon the answers to the series of questions and the comments from the audience during the relating of the first and second allegories;

allowing comments from the audience during the relating of the at least a third allegory;

20 interrelating the allegories based upon the answers and the comments;

utilizing the allegories to progress from a first idea to at least an incrementally different second idea; and,

utilizing the allegories and their interrelation to progress from the first idea to a final idea.

25

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

utilizing the at least three allegories in progressive incremental steps.

30

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the method further comprises the steps of:

choosing at least a final allegory based upon the answers to the series of questions and the comments from the audience during the relating of all previous allegories;

5 allowing comments from the audience during the relating of the final allegory;

interrelating all of the allegories based upon the answers and the comments; and,

utilizing all of the allegories and their interrelation to progress from one idea to the final idea, wherein the difference between the point of the final allegory and the point of the first allegory is larger than the difference between the point of the first allegory and the point
10 of the second allegory.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

15 selecting a final idea to be reached prior to selecting the first allegory.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the allegories are presented via an electronic medium.

20 7. A computer readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system to perform a method, the method comprising:

providing a database of allegories, each of the allegories having a message relating to
25 interpersonal relationships;

providing a set of assumptions;

asking a series of questions of an associated audience, the questions designed to determine the starting point of the method;

receiving answers to the series of questions;

30 relating assumptions to the associated audience, the amount of time spent discussing the assumptions dependent upon the answers to the series of questions;

choosing a first allegory from the database of allegories based upon the answers to the series of questions and the set of assumptions;

relating the first allegory to the associated audience;

allowing questions from the associated audience during the relating of the first

5 allegory;

determining the amount of time spent relating the allegory by the questions from the associated audience during the relating of the first allegory;

choosing a second allegory based upon the answers to the series of questions, the comments from the audience during the relating of the first allegory, and the interrelation of
10 the two allegories;

allowing comments from the audience during the relating of the second allegory;

interrelating the allegories based upon the answers and the comments;

choosing at least a third allegory based upon the answers to the series of questions and the comments from the audience during the relating of the first and second allegories;

15 allowing comments from the audience during the relating of the at least a third allegory;

interrelating the allegories based upon the answers and the comments;

utilizing the allegories to progress from a first idea to at least an incrementally different second idea; and,

20 utilizing the allegories and their interrelation to progress from the first idea to a final idea.

8. The computer readable medium of claim 7, wherein the method further
25 comprises the step of:

utilizing the at least three allegories in progressive incremental steps.

9. The computer readable medium of claim 8, wherein the method further
30 comprises the steps of:

choosing at least a final allegory based upon the answers to the series of questions and

the comments from the audience during the relating of all previous allegories;
allowing comments from the audience during the relating of the final allegory;
interrelating all of the allegories based upon the answers and the comments; and,
utilizing all of the allegories and their interrelation to progress from one idea to the
5 final idea, wherein the difference between the point of the final allegory and the point of the
first allegory is larger than the difference between the point of the first allegory and the point
of the second allegory.

10 10. The computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the method further
comprises the step of:
selecting a final idea to be reached prior to selecting the first allegory.

15 11. The computer readable medium of claim 10, wherein the allegories are
presented via an electronic medium.